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(U) Reagan Library Unveils Spies: Secrets from the CIA, KGB and Hollywood Exhibit

Earlier this month, spies, real and imaginary, appeared out of the mesquite-covered California hills to commemorate the opening of the newest exhibit at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library & Museum in Simi Valley, California. Spies: Secrets from the CIA, KGB and Hollywood is the result of an extraordinary collaborative effort between the CIA Museum/Center for the Study of Intelligence (CSI), the National Archives, and several private collectors, including



(U) CIA Musseum curator 1 with Keith Melton, renowned intelligence historian and collector of over 7,000 espionage artifacts, who observed "Hollywood's fictional spies have a chance to do a second take, CIA's intelligence officers have to get it right the first time."

espionage historian Keith Melton, to explore the subject of intelligence as an instrument in the Presidential decisionmaking process. "This exhibit is a great way for visitors to get a behind-the-scenes perspective of how intelligence is used to assist the government in making informed decisions vital to national security," said Reagan Library Director Duke Blackwood. The exhibit offers an inside look at our nation's history of intelligence gathering and clandestine operations.

The tools and artifacts of espionage from the Revolutionary War through the Cold War are displayed with artistic drama in the four galleries devoted to the exhibit. The first gallery opens with George Washington's seminal statement on intelligence: "The necessity of procuring good intelligence is apparent & need not be further urged." Nearby a hollow bullet concealment attests to espionage tradecraft dating from the Revolutionary War. Advances in technology enhanced intelligence-gathering methods during the Civil War. For the first time, photography became a tool of espionage. The world's first commercial microdot on film, invented by Jonathan Benjamin Dancer in 1852, is displayed next to the Stirn body-worn camera from 1885. Progress in aerial photography during WWI is illustrated by a spy of a different feather – the pigeon in flight bearing aloft its own body-worn camera. America's first intelligence agency, the WWII-era Office of Strategic Services, is exemplified through the tradecraft developed by its Research & Development Branch headed by Stanley Lovell. Various sabotage devices and other special weapons are on display from Keith Melton's collection.

The secret world of real spies meets the fantasy world of reel spies in the second gallery in the form of three mannequins dressed as a Soviet military intelligence officer, the fantasy character Carmen Sandiego, and a CIA operations officer, the ubiquitous "man in gray". The gray suit belongs to a real CIA operations officer and was worn in the conduct of espionage operations during the Cold War.



(U) The CIA Museum has also loaned artifacts to the Birthplace in Yorba Linda, California for its exhibit Secret Treaties: Tools & Artifacts of Diplomacy on 2, 2002.

The largest artifact in the exhibit greets the visitor at the beginning of the third gallery. "Fat Man", the 10,000-pound atomic bomb, loaned from the Navy Museum in Washington, sits in mute testimony to the most difficult decision ever made by a US President. Beyond the bomb, the story of Cold War espionage unfolds with displays on the Soviet listening device installed in the Great Seal Richard Nixon Library and found in the US Ambassador's residence in Moscow in 1952, subminiature document copy cameras, clever concealments, and subtle listening devices borrowed from Melton's collection of display through September Soviet tradecraft. The DST/Office of Technical Service supported the CIA Museum's request to

loan the Library some of the items recently displayed at Headquarters for the OTS 50th Anniversary. CIA tradecraft on display publicly for the first time includes early subminiature document copy cameras and dual-purpose subminiature cameras, which are displayed with the motto, "Imagine what is possible then prepare to be amazed." The CIA Museum's collection of U-2 artifacts is presented with the historical information that President Eisenhower personally reviewed and approved every U-2 overflight. NIMA provided a 1962 light table for a display on photo analysis during the Cuban Missile Crisis which illustrates that the accurate and timely intelligence presented to President Kennedy gave him the ability to go "eyeball to eyeball" with Khrushchev and prevented a potential nuclear exchange. The tour of this gallery concludes with a tribute to America's silent heroes exemplified by a replica of the Memorial Wall. The flag that draped the coffin of COS/Beirut William F. Buckley on its 1991 trip from Lebanon to Dover is also displayed.

As a contrast with the real story of espionage, examples of Hollywood's version of secret agent tools are displayed in the fourth gallery in an entertaining look at how Hollywood viewed the world of intelligence during the Cold War. Maxwell Smart's shoe phone from Get Smart, the pen communicator from the Man From U.N.C.L.E., and Mrs. Peel's leather pants from *The Avengers*, previously displayed at Headquarters in 2000, are on loan from the Spy-Fi Archives of Hollywood screenwriter Danny Biederman.



(U) Robert Vaughn, the star of the 1960s TV spy series "The Man From U.N.C.L.E." was a surprise guest speaker at the exhibit opening.



(U) Bob Wallace, Director, Office of Technical Service, presented to the Reagan Library director Duke Blackwood a copy of the OTS 50th anniversary coin in a special concealment, numbered 008 for President Reagan's eight years in office.

D/CSI Lloyd Salvetti said in his keynote speech at the exhibit's opening on February 16 that "the examples of tradecraft displayed here are only some of the tools of our trade. What is more important to remember is that the CIA and the rest of the Intelligence Community exist to give accurate, timely, and comprehensive intelligence to the President of the United States and to his national security team so that they can deal with threats to our nation's security and to its values." He observed that President Reagan "was a voracious consumer of intelligence. He set aside 30 minutes every day, from 0930 to 1000, for a national security briefing. At the end of each session, the President received a maroon, leather-bound book with the *President's Daily Brief*, or *PDB*, in it." For this exhibit, the *PDB* staff agreed to loan one of the blue leather binders it prepares for President Bush six days a week. The fact of the existence of the *PDB* was classified until the early 1990s.

The collaboration between the Presidential Libraries and the CIA Museum/CSI is an initiative to share with the American people the pride we in the Agency have for the role intelligence plays in helping the President achieve his national security objectives and to impart a better understanding of the craft of intelligence. The exhibit will be at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, California through July 14, 2002.

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